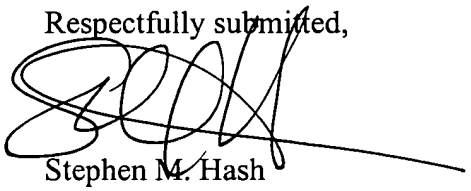
F. Conclusion

Applicants believe the foregoing to be a full and complete response to the outstanding Office Action. In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at 512-418-3058 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX A

1. A method for screening for an increased risk of hypercalciuria comprising:
   (a) obtaining a sample nucleic acid from a subject; and
   (b) analyzing the sample nucleic acid to detect the presence or absence of a genetic mutation in a genomic region associated with an increased risk of developing hypercalciuria, wherein said genomic region is comprised in chromosome 1q23.3-1q24.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the hypercalciuria is further defined as absorptive hypercalciuria.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the hypercalciuria is further defined as osteoporosis with hypercalciuria.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the osteoporosis with hypercalciuria is further defined as ideopathic osteoporosis with hypercalciuria.

5. The method of claim 3, wherein the osteoporosis with hypercalciuria is further defined as postmenopausal osteoporosis with hypercalciuria.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid is DNA.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is a human.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the genomic region is comprised in 1q23 and 1q24.

10. (amended) The method of claim [9]1, wherein the genomic region is located between markers D1S2681 and D1S2815.

11. (amended) The method of claim [9]1, wherein the genomic region has a sequence contained in SEQ ID NO:1.

12. (twice amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the genomic region has a sequence contained in at least one genetic sequence selected from the group consisting of the [the] genetic sequences set forth in GenBank Accession # Z97876 (SEQ ID NO[.]: 7, SEQ ID NO[.]: 8 and SEQ ID NO[.]: 9), GenBank Accession # Z99943 (SEQ ID NO[.]: 10), and GenBank Accession # AL031733 (SEQ ID NO[.]: 7).

13. The method of claim 1, wherein the genomic region has a lod score of greater than 3.0 but less than 30.0.

14. The method of claim 1, wherein analyzing the sample nucleic acid is done with a PCR procedure, diagnostic RFLP analysis, RNase protection assay, or RNase mismatch cleavage assay.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein analyzing the sample nucleic acid is done with a PCR procedure.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein the screening for an increased risk of hypercalciuria comprises:

(a) obtaining a sample nucleic acid from a subject; and

(b) analyzing the sample nucleic acid to detect the presence or absence of a genetic mutation in genomic region associated with an increased risk of developing hypercalciuria.